

to place the aperture at any desirable location on the cover (whether it is inside or outside the cover), since it has been held that rearranging parts of an invention involves only routine skill in the art" (*In re Japikse*, 86 USPQ 70).

Applicants Reply
to Examiner's Comments

With respect to the field of the present invention, coin collecting devices have been around for hundreds of years and have been developed in order to protect and preserve valuable coins from the effects of weather, time, dust, and light. As a result, a majority of the prior art involves encasing the coins in some form in order to preserve and protect coins. One of the more common devices used to encase coins has been a coin collecting book, in which the coins are stored in interior cover apertures and protected only after the book is closed.

Applicants' claimed invention is different from any of the prior art coin collecting books because it is a coin displaying book. In shifting the apertures to the exterior of the book, the operation of the coin display book is different from that of the prior art. The prior art protects; the invention displays.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner may have missed a critical element from the *In re Japikse* holding. Specifically, the Examiner states that "rearranging parts of an invention involves only routine skill in the art." This cited quote is misleading because it was not made by the Appeal Board, but by the Primary Examiner during prosecution of the case. Particularly, the Primary Examiner in *In re Japikse* states that "the relocation of Cannon's switch A-42 so that it may be operated by beaver tale 62 instead of by dog A-2 is devoid of invention" (*In re Japikse*, 86 USPQ 74).

The Appeal Board, however, holds that "there would be no invention in shifting the starting switch disclosed by Cannon to a different position since the operation of the device would not thereby be modified" (*In re Japikse*, 86 USPQ 73). For this reason, the Appeal Board holds that if the operation of a device is modified by shifting one or more of its components, then a unique and novel invention would exist.

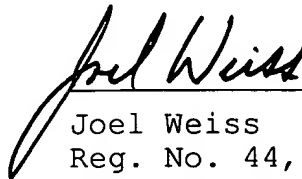
According to the principles of *In re Japikse*, if the operation of a coin book changes as a result of a shifting of these coin receivable apertures then a unique and novel invention would exist. Moving the apertures to the exterior of the cover eliminates the need for opening the book in order to view the coins. Thus, this claimed element distinguishes the operation of applicants' coin display book from the prior art. The coins may be seen without opening the coin book and may provide insight to the theme of the pre-printed information inside the book.

Conclusion

Applicants have demonstrated the claimed subject matter is in condition for allowance.

An early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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